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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,526	07/13/2001	Bum Jae You	EM/BEU/YOUB3002	2626
23364	7590	08/15/2005	EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC			BALI, VIKKRAM	
625 SLATERS LANE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FOURTH FLOOR			2623	
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			DATE MAILED: 08/15/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/903,526	YOU ET AL.
	Examiner Vikkram Bali	Art Unit 2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 5-7 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 7/13/2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

In response to the amendment filled on 1/18/2005, all the amendments has been entered and the action follows:

Examiner also noted that there were two amendments filled on 1/18/2005, the signed amendment is considered by the examiner.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 8 and 9 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements are: the equation 3 and equation 4 are missing from the claims 8 and 9 respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-2 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki (US 5995220) in view of Lehnens et al (US 5917655).

With respect to claim 1 Suzuki discloses lighting means located over the element (see numerical 1 element and numerical 4 lighting means); a prism located over lighting means (see figure 1, numerical 7); a camera located over prism, (see figure 1, numerical 5); and an image processing system (see figure 1 numerical 50) as claimed. However, Suzuki fails to disclose the camera to obtain stereo images, as claimed. Lehnens discloses a method to obtain a stereo image in order to inspect a semiconductor i.e. the camera to obtain stereo images, (see col. 4, lines 18-21) as claimed. It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of invention to combine the two references as they are analogous because they are solving the similar problem of semiconductor inspection. The method of generating stereo images in order to do the semiconductor inspection as taught by Lehnens can be incorporated into the Suzuki's system by replacing the prism and the camera of the Suzuki by the Lehnens prism and the camera. The motivation of doing this comes from the col. 1, lines 39-44 of Lehnens.

With respect to claim 2, Lehnен further teaches the prism is made of transparent material, glass (see col. 3, lines 12-14) as claimed.

4. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki (US 5995220) in view of Lehnен et al (US 5917655) and in further view of Bouvier (US 6177954).

With respect to claims 3 and 4, Suzuki and Lehnен disclose the invention substantially as disclose and as describe above in claim rejection of claim 1. However, they fail to disclose the lighting means as LED's arranged in ring, as claimed in claims 3 and 4. Bouvier in object inspection system teaches a lighting means as LED's arranged in ring, (see figure 1, numerical 14 as LED's and col. 3, lines 18-20 for the ring arrangement) as claimed.

The references are combinable as they are analogous because they are solving similar problem of optical inspection of semiconductor material.

Therefore, one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of invention can obviously consider the light source be arranged in an ring fashion because Suzuki suggested that in col. 3, lines 15 and 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5-7 are allowed.

6. Claims 8 and 9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vikkram Bali whose telephone number is 571.272.7415. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 571.272.7414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Vikkram Bali
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2623

vb
August 10, 2005